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With lakes filling and residents starting to enjoy Utah's spring weather, it's time to renew boats and other watercraft.

Residents may renew their boats through the Utah State Tax Commission's Renewal Express online program at www.renewalexpress.utah.gov.

"Renewal Express is a simple, online process that offers an immediate temporary registration permit," said Charlie Roberts, State tax Commission spokesman. "It allows people to complete their boat registration 24/7."

Most boat owners receive a registration renewal packet in the mail during the spring.

Included in the packet is a personal identification number that can be used to access the Renewal Express system online and complete the registration.

After submitting an online payment, the Tax Commission issues a temporary registration permit that can be printed on the owner's printer. Permanent registration decals are mailed within 10 days of completing the online process.

Although boat owners can still renew through the mail-in process or by visiting a Division of Motor Vehicle office, renewal Express allows greater flexibility and convenience.

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It only takes a few minutes to complete the application on Renewal Express. "It's an ideal process for those who plan last minute boating outings on Utah's waterways," Roberts added.

The service is available through Utah.gov, the state's official Web portal. The site was ranked first in the nation in Brown University's 2005 survey of state and federal Web sites.

The portal is a cooperative effort between the State and Utah Interactive, a Salt Lake City-based wholly owned subsidiary of the e-government firm NIC.

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